

# THE KIRTLAND AFB NUCLEUS



Photo by Todd Berenger

## City, base discuss common interests

City of Albuquerque Chief Operations Officer James Lewis (left) discusses issues of mutual interest with Col. Hank Andrews, 377th Air Base Wing commander, Tuesday at Kirtland AFB. City staff met with their base counterparts to learn how they can assist each other. Colonel Andrews discussed TEAM KIRTLAND's seven affirmative employment task forces, the base housing privatization program, potential opportunities

for joint exercises and traffic flow initiatives at Kirtland AFB gates. City officials discussed air quality, housing revitalization in the Trumbull neighborhood, highway construction that will impact the base, bus service to Kirtland and 300th anniversary celebration plans for Albuquerque. Both Mr. Lewis and Colonel Andrews praised the new partnership and predicted great results from the enhanced collaboration.

## APS, Kirtland AFB partner for improvement

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Here's a scenario: You are considering civilian employment at or a permanent change of station to Kirtland AFB.

Immediately, you begin researching the Albuquerque area. You're interested in employment opportunities for your spouse, what the local community has to offer, the housing market and the school system. We want to ensure the best opportunity for you and your family.

Kirtland AFB has more than 23,000 military and civilian employees. We owe it to ourselves to seek the best educational opportunities for our families and to recruit the most highly educated and best prepared individuals for the civil service.

As a major contributor to the Albuquerque community, it is important that Kirtland AFB makes a difference in our community.

The 377th Air Base Wing and Kirtland AFB have begun partnering with officials across New Mexico to

improve relationships on numerous fronts: employment, minority, mentoring, disability and educational initiatives.

One of these initiatives is a partnership with the Albuquerque Public School System. A Kirtland AFB team has been formed to work important school initiatives with APS officials.

We're excited about partnering with APS. We're excited about providing them additional data on what our parents and students are looking for in a school system and we're excited about what we can do to make APS students aware of base career opportunities.

In a very short time, huge inroads have been made.

Two angles are being pursued through the 377th Air Base Wing's "Public School Initiative." The first is a partnership between Kirtland AFB and APS officials to contribute to better safety, education and discipline in the Highland Cluster of schools—our neighbors in the southeast part of Albuquerque.

The quality of life at Kirtland AFB—on base, in family housing and the surrounding community—is important for achieving success. Among the many

improvements being made to quality of life on Kirtland AFB is the new family housing being built for current and future military families.

We want to contribute to a school system for our children that is as superb as the new housing will be—all with a view to meeting the needs of the families. APS is very interested in what we as a community are looking for in the school system and has been a willing and creative partner in discussing ideas we've presented.

The second angle is the intrinsic relationship between the people of Kirtland AFB, choosing public service as a profession, and people of Albuquerque.

PSI team members are working with officials from Highland and Del Norte High Schools to identify and integrate public service, as an option, into the schools' "pathways to careers" programs.

Several efforts are underway to enable Kirtland AFB professionals to mentor and guide APS students.

A school-based learning program has been established to tutor students and to

**PUBLIC SCHOOL INITIATIVE**

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**Town Hall meeting**  
Bring a brown bag lunch and learn about Kirtland AFB's crime, water fluoridation and housing issues at the **March 18 Town Hall meeting, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Rio Grande Community Center.**

**107 TEAM KIRTLAND members are deployed in 18 locations**

**36 days until 377th Air Base Wing Nuclear Surety Inspection**

**Force Protection Condition ALPHA**

**Straight Talk 853-4636**